

Workforce Readiness Programs



Workforce readiness for K-12 students continues to be a priority in this budget, with an investment of \$16 million per year in workforce readiness programs. Continued funding encourages more than 70,000 students to earn industry-recognized credentials and supports the innovative Workforce Incentive Program, which provides bonus payments to schools for up to 8,000 students who earn indemand credentials.

Career-Tech Equipment Grants

The budget includes \$100 million in Career Tech Equipment Grants to support the purchase of equipment that will establish and expand career technical education in schools and districts across the state. Priority will be given to career technical education programs that support careers on Ohio's Top Jobs List.



College Credit Plus Program



Access to College Credit Plus is also supported in this budget with a \$3 million per year investment to help more than 1,000 high school teachers become certified to teach College Credit Plus courses in high schools. Since its inception, the College Credit Plus program has saved students in grades 7-12 and their families more than \$1 billion in college tuition costs.





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Career-Tech Construction Grants

A **\$200 million** investment in Career Tech Construction Grants will address waiting lists for career technical education programs and the need for education and training programs for occupations critical to Ohio's economy. This program will provide grants to city, township and tax-exempt village school districts designated as the lead of a career technical planning district to help cover the costs of facilities and equipment for education and training programs that support Ohio's Top Jobs List.



EdChoice Expansion Scholarship

The budget builds on this commitment to school choice programs by expanding eligibility for the EdChoice Expansion Scholarship to all Ohio families. Families at or below 450% of the federal poverty level (\$135,000 per year for a family of four) will be eligible to receive the full scholarship amount (approximately \$6,165 for grades K-8 and \$8,407 for grades 9-12) and families with higher incomes will receive a partial scholarship.

School Choice



School choice also provides the opportunity to attend one of the 334 community schools that educate more than 116,000 Ohio students. This budget continues to support a strong community school sector by doubling the per-pupil facilities funding in this budget from \$500 to \$1,000 per student as part of the Community School Facilities Program.

In addition, this budget signals our commitment to supporting high-quality community schools with **\$136.5 million** per year to quality community schools and independent STEM schools. Each school that qualifies for this funding will receive an additional \$3,000 for each economically disadvantaged student and \$2,250 each for all other students.







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